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A SHORT

NARRATIVE

Of an Extraordinary

Delivery ~~of Rabbets,~~

Perform'd by

Mr. JOHN HOWARD

Surgeon at *Guilford.*

Publiſhed by Mr. *St. André* Surgeon and Anatomiſt to his Majeſty.

The SECOND EDITION.

LONDON,

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THE Account of the Delivery
the eighteenth Rabbet, ſhall
Publiſhed by way of Appendix to
Account.

A Short Narrative of an Extraordinary Delivery, &c.

WHatever may be the Fate of this Account, I think my ſelf indiſpenſably obliged to relate the Facts that I ſaw, and tranſacted my ſelf, as alſo the Reaſons which firſt induced me to enquire into the Truth of ſuch an Extraordinary Event; but I here declare that I take on me no other Part of this Narration, than that in which I was actually concerned.

As Mr. *Howard* himſelf intends ſhortly to publiſh the whole Account, and prove every Circumſtance of

it, by ſuch Evidences as will pu
this Matter out of all poſſibility o
Doubt, I muſt refer to him for ſevera
Particulars here omitted.

And as it will be impoſſible to judg
impartially of this Fact, till the Evi
dences abovemention'd are produced
it cannot be doubted but all ſuch Per
ſons as are not governed by Prejudice
or ſome worſe Motive, will ſuſpen
their Judgment till theſe Facts come t
their Knowledge by a more certa
way, than by flying Reports and Co
jectures.

The firſt Intelligence I received
this Matter, was on the 5th Inſtan
when I ſaw a very particular [a] Accou
of a Woman living at *Godlyman* late
delivered of five Rabbets by Mr. *Jo*
Howard, Surgeon at *Guilford* in *Su*

[a] This Account was taken the 4th Inſtant
Guilford by Mr. *Davenant*.

re

rey, a Man of known Probity, Character, and Capacity in his Profeſſion, who has practis'd Midwifery for above theſe thirty Years.

This Account was again confirmed by two [b]Letters from the ſaid Mr. *Howard*, the firſt dated *Nov.* the 6th, 4 a Clock in the Afternoon; the Subſtance of which is, That from the 4th Inſtant to the 6th he had deliver'd the Woman of three more Rabbets; that the laſt of them had leap'd in her Belly, for the ſpace of eighteen Hours, before it dy'd, and that the Moment it was taken away, another was perceiv'd to ſtruggle for Birth.

The ſecond is dated *Nov.* the ninth, and is here tranſcribed *verbatim*, viz.

SIR,

SINCE I wrote to you, I have taken or deliver'd the poor Wo-

[b] The Letters were directed to Mr. *Davenant*.

man

man of three more Rabbets, all three half grown, one of them a dunn Rabbet; the laſt leap'd twenty three Hours in the *Uterus* before it dy'd. As ſoon as the eleventh Rabbet was taken away, up leap'd the twelfth Rabbet, which is now leaping. If you have any curious Perſon that is pleaſed to come Poſt, may ſee another leap in her *Uterus*, and ſhall take it from her if he pleaſes; which will be a great Satisfaction to the Curious: If ſhe had been with Child, ſhe has but ten Days more to go, ſo I do not know how many Rabbets may be behind; I have brought the Woman to *Guilford* for better Convenience.

I am, SIR,

Your humble Servant,

JOHN HOWARD.

If you ſend a Perſon, let him bring a Letter from you.

Theſe

Theſe Letters, with others to Perſons of Diſtinction in Town, which all agreed with the above-mentioned, were ſufficient to make me deſirous of being convinced perſonally of a Fact of which there was no Inſtance in Nature. Accordingly on the 15th Inſtant, I attended the Honourable Mr. *Molyneux*, Secretary to his Royal Highneſs the Prince of *Wales*, who was inclin'd to enquire into the Truth of this extraordinary Caſe, and deſir'd me to go with him to *Guilford:* We arrived there at about half an hour after two in the Afternoon. We ſent to Mr. *Howard*, who came to us immediately, and told us that the Woman was actually in Labour of the fifteenth Rabbet. We had not been at his Houſe long, before the Nurſe who attends the Woman came to call Mr. *Howard* to her, ſhe being then in one of her labour Pains. She

She was lodged over againſt Mr. *Howard*'s Houſe, we found her dreſs'd in her Stays, ſitting on the Bed-ſide with ſeveral Women near her. I immediately examined her, and not finding the Parts prepared for her Labour, I waited for the coming on of freſh Pains, which hapned in three or four minutes, at which time I deliver'd her of the entire Trunk, ſtrip'd of its Skin, of a Rabbet of about four Months growth, in which the Heart and Lungs were contained with the Diaphragm entire. I inſtantly cut off a piece of them, and tried them in Water; they ſeemed but juſt ſpecifically lighter than it, and Mr. *Molyneux* preſſing them to the Bottom they roſe again very ſlowly; the Heart was very large, and its *Foramen Ovale* entirely open; the Lungs were remarkably ſmall, and of a much darker Colour

than commonly the Lungs are of ſuch Rabbets, who have breathed for ſome time. No Perſon but my ſelf touch'd her, from the firſt time that I had examined her, to the time of her being deliver'd by me: Her Pains were pretty ſmart, and laſted for ſome Minutes; they went off the Moment ſhe was deliver'd, and ſhe ſeem'd chearful and eaſy; walked by herſelf from the Bed-ſide to the Fire, and ſat on a Chair, where I examined her; and found, that in the Courſe of the *Fallopian Tubes*, there were ſome Inequalities, but more ſenſibly on the right ſide of her Belly; which made me conjecture that the Rabbets were bred in thoſe Tubes, and only came into the *Uterus*, when they gave her thoſe Agitations, which, according to the account of Mr. *Howard*, and of ſeveral other Perſons,

were ſenſibly felt many Hours before their Excluſion.

As there was no Blood nor Water that iſſued from the *Vagina*, after I had delivered her, I again examined that Part, and found it not in the leaſt inflamed or lacerated.

Upon examining her Breaſts, I found Milk in one of them, but only a little yellowiſh *Serum* in the other.

Her Pulſe was regular, but ſomewhat low; her Tongue florid; and upon asking for her Water, thoſe about her anſwered, ſhe made very little, and that they had not ſaved any.

She informed us, that in the Intervals of her Labour-Pains ſhe was tolerably eaſy, and had no inclination for any ſort of Food but Beef.

About two Hours after we had left her, they came again to call Mr. *Howard*,

Howard, ſhe being at that Time in violent Labour-Pains; but he and my ſelf were gone to ſee the Mayor, who was then ill. The Nurſe that attended her had delivered her, before our return, of the lower Part of a Male Rabbet, which we found totally with the Trunk, which I had before extracted: This was alſo ſtrip'd of its Skin, and compleatly perfect in all its Parts, but more manifeſtly ſo in thoſe of Generation.

In the *Rectum* of this Animal, which remain'd affix'd to the Body, we found five or ſix Pellets, much of the ſame Colour and Conſiſtence as the common Dung of a Rabbet, little Bodies, like dried Fragments, being matted together with a mucous Matter. The like was obſerved in ſome other Parts of thoſe Rabbets, which had come away before. In the other Bowels there was

a dirty colour'd *Mucus*, of the Nature of that which is conſtantly found in the Bowels of all *fœtus* Animals, and which in thoſe that void their Excrements in Pellets, is commonly hard and dry; but the Matter in the Guts of the firſt Animal was of an entire different Kind, Colour and Subſtance from any of the reſt, this being like little Filaments of an Animal Subſtance. In the Middle of the Gut *Ilium* of this Creature, I found a very ſlender, brittle, white Body, of the Length of half an Inch, which in Shape was like a very ſmall Fiſh-bones.

Between ſix and ſeven the ſame Evening we again viſited her; we had not been there long, before ſhe fell into violent Labour-Pains, inſomuch that four or five Perſons cou'd hardly confine her to an Arm-Chair: As ſoon as the Violence of the firſt Pain

Pain was ſomewhat abated, I examined her as before, and found the *Vagina* perfectly clear; and the Orifice of the *Uterus* ſo far cloſed, as not to admit of the little Finger. I conſtantly ſtood before her, nor did any Perſon whatſoever touch her, during that Time. After three or four very ſtrong Pains, that laſted ſeveral Minutes, I delivered her of the Skin of the above-ſaid Rabbet, rolled and ſqueezed up like a Ball, without the leaſt Moiſture or Blood about it; upon which ſhe recover'd of her Pain.

From that Time I did not ſtir from before her, nor did I withdraw my Hand, but to deliver the Skin to a ſtander by.

About ten Minutes after, as near as I can judge, ſhe again fell into Labour-Pains, though more ſudden and ſhort than the former; at which time

I again deliver'd her of the Head of the Rabbet, with the Furr on, part of one of the Ears being torn off, alſo without any Blood or Moiſture: And as to theſe two Deliveries, and particularly as to the Circumſtances of the latter, Mr. *Molyneux* having drawn up an Account of this whole Affair, for his own private Satisfaction; immediately upon our return to *London*, I beg leave to refer, for the Conviction he had, of the Truth thereof, to that Account which I have his leave to ſay, he will communicate to any Gentleman that is deſirous to peruſe it.

After this ſhe ſoon grew eaſy, and Mr. *Howard* gave her a ſleeping Draught.

About ten in the Evening we ſaw the Woman for the laſt Time, ſhe being then in Bed: Having felt her Belly, I found it ſoft, except thoſe Lumps, which ſtill were in the ſame Place as before mentioned. Be-

Between the Times of viſiting the Woman, we examined the ſeveral Rabbets, which were all kept ſeparate in diſtinct Pots, with Spirits of Wine, in the Order that they were brought away.

The firſt Animal did not appear to be a perfect Rabbet, in all its Parts, three of the Feet being like the Paws of a Cat, the Stomach and Inteſtines like thoſe Parts in the ſame Animal, as alſo the Shape and Figure of the *Thorax*; the Lungs and Heart of which were entirely out of their natural Situation, and ſqueezed out between the upper Ribbs and *Vertebræ* of the Neck, to which Parts they ſtrongly grew and adhered. The Lungs of this Creature, had they been placed in their natural Cavity, would not have filled above a ſixth Part of it: The Bones of this Creature being al-

ſo

ſo different in Subſtance and Structure, from thoſe of common Rabbets, the Head and one Paw only excepted.

All the other thirteen Animals were, in every Particular, like well formed, common, natural Rabbets, from the Size of two Months Growth to four. They were all broken in Pieces, and much in the ſame Manner. I ſhall deſcribe theſe pieces in the Order that Mr. *Howard* told us they had commonly been brought away. Firſt the four Paws with the Furr on; then the Liver and Inteſtines; the Trunk and Shoulders in another Part: In three or four Animals the Loyns ſeparated from the *Os Sacrum*; and in the reſt, the *Iſchium* and Thighs in one piece, with the Loyns; the Head with its Furr, and laſtly the Skin.

When all theſe ſeveral Parts were put together in their proper Order, they manifeſtly

manifeſtly made up, and appeared to belong to the above-mentioned Animals: But the *Viſcera* were wanting in four or five of them. One remarkable Circumſtance is, that moſt of theſe Animals were Females, as far as I could judge.

The Heart and Liver of thoſe which we examined, appeared much larger than uſual, when compared with the *Lungs* and *Inteſtines* which belonged to them; which on the contrary were extremely ſmall. The *Cœcum* and *Colon*, which are remarkably large in Rabbets, appeared not to exceed in bigneſs the other Inteſtines, and the ſpiral Structure of the *Cœcum* was not yet unfolded; the Stomach was in like manner much contracted, and its *Pilorus* very ſtreight and narrow. I cou'd not diſcover, in any of the Livers that I examin'd, the *Ductus Venoſus*,

nor the implantation of the *Umbelical* Vein in that Organ.

I open'd three or four of the Hearts, and found in every one of them the *Foramen Ovale*, and the *Ductus Arteriosus* fully open, the two Trunks of the Descendant *Cava* united at the right Auricle of the Heart, agreeable to that Structure which is peculiar to natural Rabbets, and some few other Animals.

The Flesh of these Creatures, particularly of that which I extracted, had the smell of Rabbets just killed: and the Substance of their Bones were, in all respects, like the Bones of *Fœtus* Rabbets; in several of them the *Epiphyses* were separated from the Bones themselves.

All the Heads which I examin'd had their compleat number of Teeth, four cutt before, and ten Grinders on

each ſide, but they appeared not in the leaſt worn nor ſtained, as the Teeth of other Rabbets are by Maſtication.

The Nails of the Paws were moſt of them exceedingly ſharp.

The Skins were all produced, being dreſs'd in Allum; they were of ſeveral Colours, as to their Furr, which was conſiderably long, and in one particularly (which was the fifth Rabbet,) that part which cover'd the Head was curled.

The Rabbet which I extracted weigh'd one and twenty ounces *Averdupoize*, making an allowance for one of the Paws not yet come away, and part of the *Viſcera* that were loſt.

From all theſe Conſiderations I was fully convinced, that at the ſame time that the external Appearance of theſe Animals was exactly like ſuch Creatures, as muſt inevitably undergo the Chan-

ges that happen to adult Animals, by Food and Air, they carry'd within them the ſtrongeſt Marks of *Fœtus's*, even by ſuch parts as cannot exiſt in an Adult, and without which a *Fœtus* cannot poſſibly be ſuppoſed to live. This, I think, proves in the ſtrongeſt Terms poſſible that theſe Animals were of a particular kind, and not bred in a natural Way; nor will there be any doubt remaining (even with the leaſt knowing in theſe matters) when thoſe parts which are ſubſervient to the Circulation of the Blood, and Nouriſhment between an adult Creature and its *Fœtus* are brought away; which I am fully ſatisfied muſt ſhortly happen, or, if retained, be the Cauſe of this Woman's Death.

All theſe Facts were verify'd before his Majeſty, on *Saturday Nov.* the 26th, by the Anatomical Demonſtration of the

the firſt, the third, fifth, and ninth of theſe Animals, which were compared with the parts of two natural Rabbets, the one of the Age of four Months, and the other of five Days, Dr. *Steigerthal* and Dr. *Teſſier* being preſent.

I ſhall with all convenient ſpeed publiſh the Anatomy of theſe Præternatural Rabbets, with their Figures taken from the Life, and compared with the Parts of Rabbets of the ſame growth, that the differences before mention'd may be fully underſtood.

In the mean while, I ſhall relate what appear'd in the Diſſection of two Rabbets, which I performed in the Preſence of Mr. *Molyneux*, the very Day that we returned from *Guilford*; the one was of four Months growth, and much of the Size of that which I had taken from the Woman, the other was barely fifteen Days old. The

Lungs

Lungs of the larger were, as nearly as I can judge, twenty times bigger in Capacity than thoſe of the præternatural one, and the Lungs of the ſmaller were at leaſt eight times the bigneſs of the fore-mentioned; both theſe were exceedingly different, in Colour and Conſiſtence, from thoſe of the præternatural Rabbet.

The *Foramen Ovale* of the ſmaller Rabbet was more than two thirds open, and that in the larger was ſo far cloſed, as but juſt to admit a very ſmall Probe.

As to the Stomach and Inteſtines, the difference was ſo notoriouſly great from thoſe we had examined, that even in the ſucking Rabbet, the Stomach and *Cœcum* were at leaſt three times larger than thoſe parts in the præternatural ones.

I ſhall give no other Account of the Woman,

Woman, than what I think pertinent to this Subject: By the ſeveral Queſtions which I put to her, I was informed, that ſhe was born and bred at *Godlyman*; She ſeem'd to be of a healthy ſtrong Conſtitution, of a ſmall ſize, and fair Complexion; of a very ſtupid and ſullen Temper: She can neither write nor read: She has been married about ſix Years to one *Joſhua Toſt*, Junior, a poor Journey-man Clothier at *Godlyman*, by whom ſhe has had three Children. The account ſhe further gave of herſelf, was, that on the 23d of *April* laſt, as ſhe was weeding in a Field, ſhe ſaw a Rabbet ſpring up near her, after which ſhe ran, with another Woman that was at work juſt by her; this ſet her a longing for Rabbets, being then, as ſhe thought, five Weeks gone with Child; the other Woman perceiving ſhe was uneaſy, charg-

ed

ed her with longing for the Rabbet they cou'd not catch, but ſhe deny'd it: ſoon after another Rabbet ſprung up near the ſame place, which ſhe endeavour'd likewiſe to catch. The ſame Night ſhe dreamt that ſhe was in a Field with thoſe two Rabbets in her Lap, and awaked with a ſick Fit, which laſted till Morning; from that time, for above three Months, ſhe had a conſtant and ſtrong deſire to eat Rabbets, but being very poor and indigent cou'd not procure any. About ſeventeen Weeks after her longing, ſhe was taken with a Flooding and violent Cholick Pains, which made her to miſcarry of a Subſtance that ſhe ſaid was like a large lump of Fleſh. Three Weeks after this, ſhe was again taken with a Flooding, and voided another Subſtance like the former, but not ſo large. Notwithſtanding theſe Accidents, ſhe did

did not perceive her ſelf to grow leſs, but continued with the Symptoms of a breeding Woman; inſomuch that in the beginning of *September*, as ſhe was working in the Hop-Ground, the Milk flow'd profuſely from her Breaſts; and as ſhe had Children before, ſhe thought ſhe felt very differently from what ſhe uſed to do. That on the 17th of *September* laſt ſhe was taken very ill in the Night, and ſent for her Mother in Law, who is a Midwife, and a neighbouring Woman, at which time ſhe voided ſomewhat, which ſhe took to be the Lights and Guts of a Pig, which her Husband carried to Mr. *Howard*, who ſome Days afterwards came to her and deliver'd her of ſome parts of the Animal firſt mention'd. After a Fortnight ſhe was Churched, and thought all was over

with her. She told me that her Husband had not cohabited with her, from the time of her firſt Miſcarriage; and that after the firſt Rabbet was brought away, ſhe had one regular Menſtrual Evacuation.

The Account Mr. *Howard* gave was, in every material Circumſtance, the ſame with the Woman's Relation; he ſaid the Guts and Liver (as he thought) of a Rabbet were brought to him, but he never knew or heard of the Woman or her Friends till then, and that at firſt he took this to be intended as an Impoſition upon him: but was at laſt with much Perſuaſion prevail'd on to go to aſſiſt her at *Godlyman*; that he did accordingly deliver her of part of the firſt Rabbet; that he attended her at *Godlyman*, till ſhe was delivered of the ninth Rabbet; but

but that it being very inconvenient to attend her there, which made him neglect all his other Buſineſs, he had brought her to *Guilford* for better Conveniency.

Mr. *Howard* further related, that when ſhe was delivered of one Rabbet, another was immediately felt in her Belly, ſtruggling with ſuch Violence, that the Motion thereof cou'd be ſenſibly felt and ſeen: That this Motion has ſometimes been ſo ſtrong, as to move the Bed-Clothes, and that it has laſted for twenty and above thirty Hours together. This particular Fact was unanimouſly agreed on, and atteſted by moſt of the People at *Guilford*, who have had the Curioſity to go to ſee her, and was confirmed to Mr. *Molyneux* and my ſelf by above ten different Perſons, who all

ſeemed to be indifferent in this Matter.

Mr. *Howard* further told me, that, during this Motion, ſhe was always free from Pain, and chearful; but that immediately upon the ceaſing of it, ſhe grew ſick, and ſoon began to perceive her Labour-Pains drawing near; that upon her firſt Pains, the Bones of the Animal were ſenſibly heard to ſnap, and break by the violent convulſive Motions of the *Uterus*: This laſt Circumſtance was likewiſe related by the ſame Perſons that atteſted the former. He further added, that ſhe had four breakings of Waters in the coming of the Rabbets, although in no great Quantity.

On *Wedneſday* the 23d Inſtant, I ſet out again for *Guilford*, with Mr. *D'Anteny*, being reſolved to bring the

Woman to Town, if there was any further proſpect of more Rabbets. We arrived there at one in the Afternoon, and we found Mr. *Howard* ſtanding at his Door, who told us, that ſhe had been delivered of two more Rabbets ſince I had ſeen her, and that he hoped all was over, being he did not perceive in the *Uterus* any Motion as uſual. I viſited her ſeveral times that Day, and proceeded in every reſpect as before; her Pains, which, when I ſaw her the firſt Time, were mixed with intervals of Quiet and Reſt, now were conſtant and fixed on the right Side of her Belly; her Pulſe was more irregular; ſhe deſcribed her Pain as if very coarſe brown Paper was tearing from within her. Toward eight a Clock that Evening ſhe voided a Piece of one of the Membranes of a *Placenta*, rolled

rolled up like Parchment; when it was extended, it meaſured about ſix Inches over. The next Morning, as I was packing up ſome of the Rabbets to bring to Town with me, Mr. *Howard* was ſent for over, and Mr. *D'Anteny*, Dr. *Hampe*, and my ſelf attended him. We found her in exquiſite Torture, and after ſeven or eight Minutes, ſhe was again disburthen'd of a Membrane, in Structure, Shape and Size exactly like the former. This was the firſt part that I ſaw come from her with ſome effuſion of Blood. She did not ſeem in the leaſt reliev'd after this Operation, her Pulſe continu'd irregular, her Tongue white, and her Urine deeply ſtained with a *Mucus*, and livid *Blood*.

Mr.

Mr. *Ahlers* having been at *Guilford*, by his Majeſty's Order, (as Mr. *Howard* told us) to enquire into the Truth of this Fact, was fully convinced of it, as he himſelf declared, having aſſiſted the greateſt part of *Sunday* the 20th inſtant, at the Delivery of ſome of the 16th Rabbet, which he brought to Town with him. But as on this Occaſion his Behaviour has been repreſented here different from what it was at *Guilford*, I cannot better vindicate that Gentleman's Character, than by ſubjoyning the following Affidavits, which were taken in the preſence of Mr. *D'Anteny*, and Doctor *Hampe*. And that the Truth, ſo far as it relates to this Point, may be known, I think he is ſtrictly obliged, in Juſtice

Juſtice to the Publick, forthwith to give an Account of what he ſaw and tranſacted there; as I here have done.

London, Monday
Nov. 28. 1726.

N. ST. ANDRE.

I HAVE carefully read the above Narrative. Whether the Animals mentioned therein were præternaturally produced in this Woman, or that a Fraud is practicable in this Caſe, I do not take upon me to ſay: Gentlemen who are ſufficient Judges will determine that Matter upon proper Evidence; I can only certify, That I did draw up a Relation as is above-mentioned, which, in the moſt material Circumſtances of Fact, agrees with this Narrative; and I can further affirm, that I did not perceive the leaſt Circumſtance of Fraud in the Conduct of this Affair while I was at Guilford.

Nov. 29. 1726.

S. MOLYNEUX.

'*John Howard* of *Guilford* in the County of *Surrey* Surgeon, maketh Oath, That on *Sunday* the twentieth Day of this inſtant Month of *November*, at or about ten a Clock in the Morning, he this Deponent was called home to a Perſon who told him his name was *Ahlers*; that he was come to ſee *Mary Toſt*; that he was ordered by his Majeſty to attend her till all was over; and that he was Surgeon to his Majeſty's *German* Houſhold. And this Deponent ſaith, That at that very time the Nurſe of the ſaid *Mary Toſt* came to acquaint this Deponent, that the ſaid *Mary Toſt* was in Labour: And thereupon this Deponent carried the ſaid Mr. *Ahlers* over to her with him, and having touched her in his Preſence, deſired him to examine her, for that he found all things ready for a Delivery. *Guilford* in Com' *Surrey*. } ſſ.

'That Mr. *Ahlers* did accordingly 'examine; but this Deponent finding 'that he did not haſten her Delivery, 'nor that he proceeded as one who 'underſtands Midwifery ſhould do, 'this Deponent directed him how to 'proceed in the Extraction, which 'after ſome time Mr. *Ahlers* effect-'ed, having brought away the Loins 'and inferior Parts of a Rabbet, of 'about three Months Growth. That 'after this Mr. *Ahlers* told this De-'ponent, and all the Perſons preſent, 'that he was fully ſatisfied, and con-'vinced of the Truth, and that he 'could have no Doubts after ſuch 'Proofs. That at the ſame time he 'gave the Woman a Guinea, expreſ-'ſing great Satisfaction, and promiſing 'that he would procure her a Pen-'ſion from his Majeſty: That he re-'peated the ſame Things to Mr. *Tho.* '*Howard* in this Deponent's Preſence,

'nor

'nor did he offer any Objections or 'Doubts to them. That ſome time 'after Mr. *Ahlers* deſired to touch the 'Woman again; but as at the time 'before he had put her to a great 'deal of unneceſſary Pain, this De-'ponent deſired him to forbear. That 'ſome time after Mr. *Ahlers* ſaid he 'was not well, and that he muſt 'haſten back to *London*. That this 'Deponent preſſed him to ſtay, that 'he might aſſiſt at the bringing away 'of the Remainder of the Rabbet, but 'could not prevail on him; and ſoon 'after he accordingly ſet out for '*London*, although it was almoſt 'dark.

JOHN HOWARD.

Jur. viceſimo quinto die Novembris,
Anno Reg. Regis Geo. *&c.* 13.
Anno Dom. 1726. *coram*
JOS. BURTT Mayor.
JAMES CLIFFTON.

Mary Toft, the Wife of *Joſhua Toft*, ‘ of *Godlyman* in the County of ‘ *Surrey*, Clothworker, and *Mary* ‘ *Coſten* Nurſe to the ſaid *Mary* ‘ *Toft*, ſeverally make Oath, That ‘ Mr. *Ahlers* declared it was wonder- ‘ ful People would not believe a Fact ‘ that was ſo true as this appeared to ‘ him, and the ſaid *Mary Toft* ſaith, ‘ That Mr. *Ahlers* examined her ‘ Breaſts, and found Milk in one of ‘ them.

The Mark of
Mary † *Toft.*

The Mark of
Mary × *Coſten.*

Jur. Die & Anno ſupradict.
coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.
JAMES CLIFFTON.

E Lizabeth Helmes of *Guilford* in the County of *Surrey* Widow, maketh Oath, That on *Sunday* the twentieth Day of this inſtant *November*, at about four in the Afternoon, ſhe asked Mr. *Ahlers*, who dined then at her Houſe, bearing the Sign of the *White-Heart*, whether he believed this Account; and that his Anſwer was, That he fully did believe it. To which this Deponent reply'd; Then I hope, Sir, you will convince a great many Unbelievers when you return to *London*, as ſome other Gentlemen have already done; to which he ſaid he ſhould, as this Deponent apprehended. *Guilford* in Com' *Surrey*. }

ELIZ. HELMES.

Jur' viceſimo quinto die Novembris *An. Reg. Regis Geo. &c.* 13. *Anno Domini* 1726. *coram*

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

OLive *Sands*, the Wife of *John Sands* of *Guilford* in the County of *Surrey* Sadler, maketh Oath, That ſhe ‘ was conſtantly in the room on *Sunday* the twentieth inſtant with Mr. ‘ *Ahlers*, from eleven in the Morning ‘ to three in the Afternoon. That ‘ Mrs. *Helmes* called him to Dinner, ‘ that during the whole time the Woman was in violent Labour, and that ‘ he did not leave her in all that time ‘ but to go to Dinner. That this Deponent ſaw Mr. *Ahlers* examine the ‘ Woman's Breaſts, and found Milk in ‘ one of them, and that ſhe heard him ‘ ſay he was ordered by his Majeſty ‘ to attend the ſaid Woman, *Mary Toſt*, till it was all over. And further ſaith, that the ſaid Mr. *Ahlers* ‘ ſaid he would endeavour to get the ‘ Woman a Penſion from his Majeſty,

or

' or Words to that effect, on his ' ſeeming ſatisfied of the Miſery the ' Woman underwent.

OLIVE SANDS.

Jur' Die & Anno ſupradict. coram
Jos. BURTT Mayor.
JAMES CLIFFTON.

THomas *Howard* of *Guilford* in the Coun- *Guilford* in Com' *Surrey.* } ſt.
' ty of *Surrey* Surgeon, maketh Oath, ' That on *Sunday* the twentieth Day of this ' inſtant Month of *November*, this Depo- ' nent went to ſee the poor miſerable Wo- ' man *Mary Toft*, about three of the Clock ' in the Afternoon, where he found in her ' Chamber one Mr. *Ahlers*, a Surgeon, who ' told this Deponent he was come to ſee ' her the ſaid Woman, and that he was or- ' dered by his Majeſty to attend her till 'twas ' all over. That the ſaid Mr. *Ahlers* him- ' ſelf, in the aforeſaid Chamber, ſhewed this ' Deponent the Loins and inferior Parts of a ' Rabbet, which he told this Deponent HE EX- ' TRACTED HIMSELF OUT OF THE UTERUS. ' That this Deponent asked him what his ' Opinion was in this Caſe, to which he an- ' ſwered, and told this Deponent, HE WAS

' FULLY

' FULLY CONVINCED AND SATISFIED THAT
' IT CAME OUT OF THE UTERUS. That then
' the Deponent asked him, if 'twas poſſible,
' it could be forced or thruſt into the *Ute-*
' *rus*; to which his Anſwer was, No. That
' after this Deponent was with him at the
' *White-Hart-Inn* in *Guilford*, and there Mr.
' *Ahlers* repeated part of what he had ſaid
' before. That this Deponent there preſſed
' him very much to ſtay all Night, to take a-
' way all the reſt of the Parts of the aforeſaid
' Rabbet: Upon which he ſaid he had a Gid-
' dineſs, and a turning round in his Head,
' with a Pain on his Neck and Shoulders,
' and a ſoreneſs of his Throat, which made
' him very uneaſy, and that he was reſolved
' to go back to *London*. That the ſaid Mr.
' *Ahlers* gave the Woman Money, and told
' her he would procure her a Penſion, and
' took his leave of her. And this Deponent
' ſaith, that the ſaid Mr. *Ahlers* went from
' *Guilford* about five of the Clock in the Af-
' ternoon. THO. HOWARD

Jur. viceſimo ſeptimo die Novembris *Anno Reg. Regis* Geo. *&c.* 13, *Anno Domini*, 1726. *coram*

JOS. BURTT Mayor.
JAMES CLIFFTON.

FINIS.